

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please revise the claims to read as follows:

1. (Previously presented) A method of processing search results obtained in response to a user query, the method comprising:

providing document pointers returned by a search engine to identify a source from which documents are available, each said document pointer including a Uniform Resource Locator (URL);

generating at least two visual abstracts for at least one of said documents, each of said two visual abstracts being a thumbnail image of a different size; and

formatting a stream of data such that when said data is displayed on a display screen regarding said at least one of said documents, a smaller one of said visual abstracts appears adjacent to a corresponding search result.

2. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said visual abstract is generated after first manipulating said document so as to enhance a visibility of at least a portion of said document.

3. (Original Claim) The method of claim 2, wherein said manipulating is performed by filtering said document.

4. (Original Claim) The method of claim 3, wherein said filtering is performed on an image in said document.

S/N: 09/442,150
Docket: ALM9990095

5. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

displaying a larger one of said visual abstracts on said display screen when requested by said user.

6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 5, further comprising:

storing data relating to said larger one of said visual abstracts.

7. (Original Claim) The method of claim 5, wherein said larger one of said visual abstracts is displayed on said display screen when a cursor is moved over said smaller one of said visual abstracts.

8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7, further comprising:

removing said larger one of said visual abstracts from said display screen.

9. (Original Claim) The method of claim 8, wherein said larger one of said visual abstracts is removed from said display screen when said cursor is moved away from said smaller one of said visual abstracts.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently amended) ~~The method of claim 10, further comprising:~~ A method of processing search results obtained in response to a user query, the method comprising:

S/N: 09/442,150

Docket: ALM9990095

examining document pointers returned by a search engine to identify a source from which documents are available, each said document pointer including a Uniform Resource Locator (URL):

obtaining said documents from said source;

generating a visual abstract for each of said documents, each visual abstract being a thumbnail image, each said thumbnail image comprising a visual similarity of said document as reduced in size, a title of said document ensured to be readable on each said thumbnail image;
formatting a stream of data such that when said data is displayed on a display screen, each visual abstract appears adjacent to a corresponding search result; and

creating a larger visual abstract of at least one of said documents.

12. (Previously presented) The method of claim 11, further comprising:

storing data relating to said larger one of said visual abstracts.

13. (Previously presented) The method of claim 11, further comprising:

displaying said larger one of said visual abstracts on said display screen on demand.

14. (Original Claim) The method of claim 13, wherein said larger one of said visual abstracts is displayed on said display screen when a cursor is moved over said smaller one of said visual abstracts.

S/N: 09/442,150
Docket: ALM9990095

15. (Previously presented) The method of claim 13, further comprising:

removing said larger one of said visual abstracts from said display screen.

16. (Original Claim) The method of claim 15, wherein said larger one of said visual abstracts is removed from said display screen when said cursor is moved away from said smaller one of said visual abstracts.

17. (Currently amended) ~~The method of claim 10, said generating a visual abstract further comprising:~~ A method of processing search results obtained in response to a user query, the method comprising:

examining document pointers returned by a search engine to identify a source from which documents are available, each said document pointer including a Uniform Resource Locator (URL);

obtaining said documents from said source;

generating a visual abstract for each of said documents, each visual abstract being a thumbnail image, each said thumbnail image comprising a visual similarity of said document as reduced in size, a title of said document ensured to be readable on each said thumbnail image;

formatting a stream of data such that when said data is displayed on a display screen, each visual abstract appears adjacent to a corresponding search result;

determining whether a portion of a source document should be enhanced for visibility relative to another portion; and

S/N: 09/442,150
Docket: ALM9990095

manipulating said source document determined to have a portion to be enhanced so that one portion therein is manipulated to improve a visibility while another portion therein is manipulated to degrade a visibility, wherein said manipulating includes filtering said source document.

18. (Original Claim) The method of claim 17, wherein said filtering is performed on an image in said source document.

19. (Previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein said portion of said source document to be enhanced corresponds to at least one of a title and a heading of said source document.

20. (Previously presented) The method of claim 19, wherein one of said title and said heading is enlarged as compared with a second portion of said source document.

21. (Previously presented) The method of claim 20, wherein said second portion of said source document corresponds to a body of text of said source document.

22. (Previously presented) A method of searching for a document, said method comprising:
supplying a search request;

S/N: 09/442,150
Docket: ALM9990095

providing abstracts of documents on a screen display that correspond to said search request, said abstracts including a written abstract that contains a summary of a contents of said documents and a first visual abstract of each of said documents;

creating a second visual abstract of one of said documents, each of said first visual abstract and said second visual abstract respectively being a thumbnail image of said document, wherein said second visual abstract is larger than said first visual abstract; and

displaying said second visual abstract when requested by a user.

23. (Previously presented) The method of claim 22, wherein said first visual abstract is created after manipulating a source document so as to enhance visibility of at least a first portion of said source document.

24. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23, wherein said first portion corresponds to at least one of a title and a heading of said document.

25. (Original Claim) The method of claim 22, wherein said second visual abstract is displayed on said display screen when said user moves a pointing device over a corresponding one of said first visual abstracts.

26. (Previously presented) The method of claim 25, further comprising:

removing said second visual abstract from said display screen when said user moves said pointing device away from said corresponding one of said first visual abstracts.

S/N: 09/442,150
Docket: ALM9990095

27. (Previously presented) The method of claim 22, further comprising:

- storing data relating to said second visual abstract in a cache database.

28. (Previously presented) The method of claim 27, further comprising:

deleting said data relating to said second visual abstract in said cache database after a predetermined amount of time.

29. (Previously presented) A program storage device readable by machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by said machine to perform method steps for processing search results obtained in response to a user query, said method comprising:

supplying a search request;

providing abstracts of documents on a screen display that correspond to said search request, said abstracts including a written abstract containing a summary of a contents of said documents and a first visual abstract of said documents;

creating a second visual abstract of one of said documents, each of said first visual abstract and said second visual abstract respectively being a thumbnail image of said document, wherein said second visual abstract is larger than said first visual abstract; and

displaying said second visual abstract when requested by a user.

30. (Previously presented) A computer system for searching for a document, said system comprising:

a client system; and

S/N: 09/442,150
Docket: ALM9990095

a server system,

said client system supplying a search request to said server system, said server system providing abstracts of documents to said client system, said abstracts corresponding to said search request, said client system displaying said abstracts on a screen display, said abstracts including a written abstract of a contents of said documents and a first visual abstract of each of said documents, said server system creating a second visual abstract of one of said documents, each of said first visual abstract and said second visual abstract respectively being a thumbnail image of said document, said second visual abstract being larger than said first visual abstract when displayed on said screen display, said client system displaying said second visual abstract when requested by a user.

31. (Previously presented) The system of claim 30, wherein said first visual abstract is created after manipulating a source document so as to enhance visibility of at least a first portion of said source document.

32. (Original Claim) The system of claim 30, wherein said second visual abstract is displayed on said screen display when said user moves a pointing device over said first visual abstract.

33. (Original Claim) The system of claim 32, wherein said second visual abstract is removed from said screen display when said user moves said pointing device away from said first visual abstract of said document.

S/N: 09/442,150
Docket: ALM9990095